

Message Text

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THE FOLLOWING IS SECTION A OF THE INTERNATIONAL NARCOTICS
CONTROL SEMI-ANNUAL REPORT COVERING THE PERIOD FROM JULY 1
THROUGH DECEMBER 31, 1975.

SECTION A: HIGHLIGHTS OF SIGNIFICANT DEVELOPMENTS DURING
REPORTING PERIOD.

1. THE NATIONAL POLICE NARCOTICS SERVICE PERSONNEL HAS STEADILY INCREASED FROM ITS ORIGINAL LEVEL OF 35 IN 1973, COVERING 9 KEY PROVINCES TO ITS PRESENT STRENGTH OF 243, COVERING ALL PROVINCES EXCEPT GALAPAGOS. ACCORDING TO THE CIEX OF THE NARCOTIC SERVICE THIS TOTAL IS EXPECTED TO INCREASE IN 1976.

2. THE ECUADOREAN NATIONAL POLICE AND THE COLOMBIAN NATIONAL POLICE ARE CONDUCTING MONTHLY MEETINGS AT THE BORDER TOWNS

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OF TULCAN AND IPIALES IN AN EFFORT TO IMPROVE COORDINA-

TION AND COLLABORATION IN THEIR ENFORCEMENT EFFORTS TO CONTROL
THE TRAFFIC OF NARCOTICS.

3. A SET OF GUIDELINES GOVERNING COOPERATION OF POLICE,
CUSTOMS MILITARY POLICE AND THE MINISTRY WAS INITIATED
AT THE MONTHLY OE/MISSION NARCOTIC COMMITTEE MEETING
AND EXPANDED UPON BY THE CHIEFS OF POLICE NARCOTC SER-
VICE AND THE CUSTOMS MILITARY POLICY. THE GOE NARCOTICS
COORDINATOR AT THE MINISTRY OF GOVERNMENT HAS COMPLETED
THE PAPER ON THESE GUIDELINES TO IMPROVE COORDINATION
AND COLLABORATION BETWEEN THESE AGENCIES.

4. IN LATE NOVEMBER 1975 THE MINISTER OF GOVERNMENT
ISSUED A SIGNED DOCUMENT, WHICH AMOUNTED TO AN "ORDER
OR APPEAL" TO THE JUDICIARY, ALL JUDGES, PROSECUTORS AND
OFFICIALS OF THE FIRST INSTANCE, CALLING FOR THEIR COOPER-
ATION WITH THE NARCOTIC SERVICE AND INTERPOL IN A NATION-
WIDE CAMPAIGN AIMED AT ERADICATING THE DRUG PROBLEM IN
ECUADOR THROUGH ARREST AND SWIFT PROSECUTION OF NARCOTIC
TRAFFICKERS.

5. THE INTERMINISTERIAL COORDINATION COMMISSION ON NARCO-
TICS HAS DISPLAYED AN INCREASED INTEREST IN THE GOE/US
NARCOTIC PROGRAMS AND RECENTLY INVITED THE USAID MISSION
DIRECTOR AND THE EMBASSY NARCOTIC COORDINATOR TO A

MEETING TO DISCUSS THESE PROGRAMS. THEY PLEDGED FULL
SUPPORT AND INDICATED A DESIRE TO BE KEPT FULLY INFORMED
OF THE PROGRESS OF THE PROGRAMS TO INSURE THE BEST
COORDINATION AND COOPERATION.

6. THE GOE, THROUGH THE MINISTRIES OF EDUCATION AND
HEALTH, HAS SHOWN A POSITIVE INTEREST IN CARYING OUT
EDUCATION AND INFORMATION PROGRAMS ON DRUG ABUSE AND
NARCOTIC TRAFFICKING. TWO PROGRAM AGREEMENTS ARE EX-
PECTED TO BE SIGNED IN JANUARY 1976 WITH THESE MINIS-
TRIES WHICH ARE DESIGNED TO ASSIST THEM IN THEIR PLANS.

7. ON DECEMBER 16, 1975 THE USAID/NARCOTIC CONTROL
DIVISION RECEIVED A FORMAL REQUEST FROM THE COMMANDING GENERAL
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OF THE ECUADOREAN ARMY REQUESTING NARCOTIC
TRAINING FOR A GROUP OF INTELLIGENCE OFFICERS
OF THE ARMY. THIS REQUEST WAS APPROVED BY THE MISSION
AND WILL BE FULFILLED DURING THE MONTH OF
FEBRUARY 1976. THE USAID NARCOTIC CONTROL DIVISION, DEA,
GOE CUSTOMS, AND THE NATIONAL POLICE WILL COMBINE TO
PROVIDE THE INSTRUCTION.

8. THE CUSTOMS MILITARY POLICE WERE RESTRUCTURED IN DECEMBER. POLITICAL APPOINTEES WITHOUT ADEQUATE TRAINING WERE ELIMINATED FROM THE SERVICE, AND HENCEFORTH APL ENTERING PERSONNEL MUST FIRST COMPLETE REQUIRED TRAINING AT THE ARMY SCHOOL WHICH INCLUDES SPECIALIZED CUSTOMS TRAINING.

9. IN JULY, 5000,000 SUCRES (US\$20,000) WERE DEPOSITED IN A SPECIAL ACCOUNT OF THE PAYMASTER OF THE CUSTOMS MILITARY POLICE TO BE USED IN TRAINING OF CUSTOMS MILITARY POLICE PERSONNEL AND IN MAINTENANCE OF EQUIPMENT. ONE MILLION SUCRES HAD BEEN COMMITTED YQ THE GOE IN THE 1975 PRO-AG FOR THIS PURPOSE. THE MONEY HAS BEEN USED FOR TRAINING AND TO REFURBISH SEVEN PATROL VEHICLES WHICH WERE IN POOR OPERATING CONDITION.

10. ARRESTS AND SEIZURES FOR THE YEAR HAVE INCREASED, ALTHOUGH TOTAL STATISTICS FOR 1975 ARE NOT YET AVAILABLE.

11. PROJECT STATEMENTS.

A) NATIONAL POLICE - 114.1: THIS AGREEMENT EXPIRES DEC. 31, 1975, BUT IS EXPECTED TO BE QUICKLY RENEWED.

PROGRESS IN THIS PROJECT HAS BEEN GOOD, AND THE NATIONAL POLICE NARCOTICS SERVICE NOW HAS NARCOTICS UNITS IN ALL PROVINCES EXCEPT OLAPAGOS. THE NARCOTICS SERVICE HAS GROWN TO 243 AND ITS BUDGET HAS BEEN IMPROVED TO ALLOW 80 PROMOTIONS. THE PACE OF TRAINING HAS BEEN ACCELERATED AND COMMUNICATIONS ARE BEING IMPROVED.

B) CUSTOMS - 114.2: THIS AGREEMENT ALSO EXPIRES DEC. 31, 1975, BUT RENEWAL IS EXPECTED. PROGRESS DURING THE REPORTING PERIOD IS SATISFACTORY. ISOLATED IN-TRANSIT UNCLASSIFIED

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LOUNGES HAVE BEEN CONSTRUCTED AT THE TWO INTERNATIONAL AIRPORTS AND PLANS HAVE BEEN APPROVED FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF A BORDER STATION. LAND HAS BEEN ACQUIRED FOR TWO CHECK-POINTS. NINE PATROL VEHICLES WERE PURCHASED WITH USG CONTRIBUTION. TRAINING INCLUDED A TWO-WEEK PROGRAM FOR CUSTOMS MILITARY POLICE IN EL ORO AND PROGRAMS IN WHICH US CUSTOMS ADVOSORS TRAINED A 15-MAN SHIP SEARCHING SQUAD IN GUAYAQUIL AND GAVE TRAINING IN PATROL TECHNIQUES TO THE EL ORO GROUP.

C) NATIONAL DEPARTMENT OF NARCOTICS CONTROL AND INSPECTION, MINISTRY OF HEALTH - 114.3: THIS PROJECT ALSO EXPIRES DEC. 31, 1975, BUT IS EXPECTED TO BE RENEWED FOR \$45,000 IN JANUARY, 1976. PROGRESS IN THIS PROJECT HAS BEEN SATISFACTORY. A PERMANENT CHIEF OF THE DEPARTMENT WAS NAMED IN NOV. WHICH SHOULD IMPROVE INTER-

PROVINCIAL COMMUNICATION. LABORATORIES HAVE BEEN COMPLETED IN QUITO AND GUAYAQUIL AND ARE AWAITING EQUIPMENT. STATISTICS ON DRUG USE HAVE IMPROVED AS WELL AS COMPLIANCE INSPECTION OF LICIT DRUG OUTLETS.

D) EDUCATION - IT IS EXPECTED THAT A NEW PROJECT AGREEMENT WILL BE SIGNED WITH THE MINISTRY OF PUBLIC EDUCATION IN JANUARY 1976, FOR \$8,000, FOR THE PURPOSE OF INTRODUCING WITHIN THE EDUCATIONAL SYSTEM A NARCOTICS PROGRAM TO PREVENT DRUG ABUSE AMONG HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS IN ECUADOR. THIS AGREEMENT WILL FINANCE OTHER COSTS FOR TRAINING SEMINARS. THE GOE CONTRIBUTION, FOR PERSONNEL SALARIES, TRAVEL AND PER DIEM, AMOUNTS TO \$27,000.

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